

2016 SRS Research Opportunities*

Southern State Forestry Agencies

Certification

- Cost versus benefit – the real value to private landowners
- Comparison of various systems and impacts on markets and long-term sustainability
- Interests in certification – landowners, forest industry, and retail
- Market access and price differentials

Ecosystem Services

- Carbon data collection and the impacts of sequestration
- Water values from private and public lands
- Associated values for all ecosystem and social services
- Effectiveness and contributions of BMP program

Utilization & Markets

- Site and social impacts of biomass utilization
- Barriers to market access and economies of scale challenges faced by small ownerships
- Development of small-scale facilities for raw materials
- Changes in traditional markets and new opportunities

Communications & Social Science

- Dynamics of private land ownership and public attitudes toward forestry
- Impacts of private forest land on quality of life
- Identify and engage private forest landowners
- Development of tools/messages/strategies to reach landowners

Forest & Land Management

- Management and utilization of historically non-commercial forests
- Longleaf pine markets and growth/yield models
- Adaptive forest management and changing weather patterns
- Rx fire in hardwoods-impacts and influences
- Barriers to Rx burning accomplishments and recommended solutions
- Impacts of Rx burning on soil carbon and CO₂ release
- Assess Rx burning public perception
- Model and assess smoke management challenges and opportunities

Water

- Buffer design and placement; impact on sediment
- Impact of forest/tree removal on reservoirs
- Shared, multi-state issues relating to forested watersheds

FIA

- Forest sustainability and biomass studies
- Fragmentation and urban forest canopy assessments
- Forecasting tools
- Capturing wood drawn from adjacent states

Fire

- Landscape changes and associated risk
- Wildfire modeling

Forest Health

- Economic and environmental impacts of invasive species
- Silvicultural activities to control/eliminate invasive plants
- Opportunities to establish remote invasive assessments

*from the SGSF FMC